

Atty. Docket No. 388.0002
Amendment Dated April 5, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 8, 2006
Appl. No. 10/758,194

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 10-12, 14, 18 and 21-24 are pending in the application.

Claims 15-17 and 19 have been cancelled herein, without prejudice to re-file.

Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, and 13 were cancelled previously.

Claims 20 has been examined and allowed.

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 10-12, 14, 18 and 21-24 were stated to be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-2, 5-7, 10-12, 14, 18 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Independent claims 1 and 21 have been amended in the belief that the amended language overcomes the grounds for the rejection by deleting offending "relative size" clauses. All of these claims should now recite allowable, patentable subject matter.

In the March 8 Office Action, Claims 15-17 and 19 were rejected as being anticipated by Hurd (US Pat. 4,457,422). In response to this rejection and for the purpose of expediting issuance of a patent covering subject matter of this invention, Applicant has cancelled those claims but without prejudice to re-file for further prosecution in a continuation application.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the application is now in form for allowance of all claims. Such favorable action is respectfully solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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April 5, 2006

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